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**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Sarah Strommen
Councilmember Jill Johns
Councilmember Mark Kuzma
Councilmember John LeTourneau
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Melody Shryock

Members Absent: Councilmember Kristine Williams

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Finance Director Diana Lund
Fire Chief Dean Kapler
Retiring Police Chief James Way
Police Chief Jeff Katers
Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
Human Resources Manager Colleen Lasher
City Clerk Jo Ann Thieling
Community Development Director Timothy Gladhill
City Engineer Bruce Westby
Asst. City Administrator/Economic Development Manager Patrick Brama
City Attorney Joe Langel

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Strommen called the regular meeting of the Ramsey City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Strommen.

2. PRESENTATION

2.01: Recognition of Outgoing Councilmember Randy Backous and Councilmember Jason Tossey

Mayor Strommen and City Administrator Ulrich recognized the contributions of and extended the City's appreciation to former Councilmembers Randy Backous and Jason Tossey. Mayor Strommen presented both with a resolution certificate to commemorate their service to the City of Ramsey. A round of applause was offered by all.

2.02: Presentation / Recognition of Retiring Police Chief James Way

Mayor Strommen and City Administrator Ulrich recognized the contributions of and extended the City's appreciation to retiring Police Chief James Way. Mayor Strommen presented Retiring Police Chief Way with a plaque commemorating his service to the City of Ramsey. A standing round of applause was offered by all.

Chief Way stated he enjoyed working for Ramsey and thanked the Council for this recognition.

Mayor Strommen invited all to attend a January 30, 2015, reception to recognize Chief Way's retirement.

2.03: Swearing in of Police Chief Jeff Katers

City Attorney Langel administered the oath of office to Police Chief Jeff Katers. Retiring Chief Way and Mayor Strommen pinned Chief Kater's collar brass stars.

Mayor Strommen extended the City's congratulations to Jeff Katers on his appointment as Ramsey Police Chief and the Council's confidence in his leadership. A round of applause was offered by all.

2.04: Swearing in of Police Captain Brad Bluml

City Attorney Langel administered the oath of office to Police Captain Brad Bluml. Chief Katers and Captain Bluml's wife pinned Captain Bluml's collar brass stars. A round of applause was offered by all.

2.05: Swearing in of Police Sergeant Rich Webb

City Attorney Langel administered the oath of office to Police Sergeant Rich Webb. Chief Katers and Sergeant Webb's wife pinned Sergeant Webb's collar brass stars. A round of applause was offered by all.

Mayor Strommen and the Councilmembers extended their congratulations to retiring Police Chief Way, Police Chief Katers, Captain Bluml, and Sergeant Webb. Mayor Strommen also thanked those present to show their support.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Strommen extended the City's deepest sympathy and thoughts of solidarity to the New Hope City Council and Police Department colleagues.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember LeTourneau, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- 4.01: Note the following Boards and Commission Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated November 13, 2014
 - 2. Environmental Policy Board Meeting Minutes dated December 1, 2014
 - 3. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes dated December 4, 2014
 - 4. Economic Development Authority Meeting Minutes dated December 11, 2014
- 4.02: Consider Approvals Related to Site Plan Review of Casey's General Store:
 - 1. Adopt Resolution #15-01-015 Approving the Plat entitled "CASEY'S ADDITION"
 - 2. Approve the Site Plan for Casey's General Store
 - 3. Adopt Resolution #15-01-013 Approving Findings of Fact #0939 related to Sign Plan
 - 4. Adopt Resolution #15-01-014 Approving Conditional Use Permit for Sign Plan
- 4.03: Consider Preliminary Plat, Final Plat, and Easement Vacation Related to the Proposed Plat of Brookfield 5th Addition; Case of 21st Century Bank:
 - 1. Adopt Resolution #15-01-012 Approving the Preliminary Plat entitled "BROOKFIELD FIFTH ADDITION"
 - 2. Adopt Resolution #15-01-026 Approving the Final Plat entitle "BROOKFIELD FIFTH ADDITION"
 - 3. Adopt Resolution #15-01-030 Vacating the Existing Drainage and Utility Easements on the Property
 - 4. Approve the Development Agreement for BROOKFIELD FIFTH ADDITION
 - 5. Direct Staff to Proceed with Preparing Final Construction Plans and Specifications for the Reconstruction of the Cul-de-Sad within its Existing Footprint
- 4.04: Schedule Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of the 2015-2019 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
- 4.05: Approve the following Meeting Minutes:
 - 1. City Council Work Session dated January 13, 2015
 - 2. City Council Regular dated January 13, 2015
- 4.06: Approval from Exemption for a Gambling License for Minnesota Waterfowl Association – Rum River Chapter
- 4.07: Approve Second Amendment to the Agreement for Transit Service Expansion Plan with Metropolitan Council
- 4.08: Introduce Ordinance #15-01 Approving a Zoning Amendment for R-1 Residential (MUSA) at 15153 Nowthen Boulevard NW; Case of the City of Ramsey
- 4.09: Introduce Ordinance #15-02 Amending City Code Section 117-54 (Site Plan Review) and City Code Section 117-589 (Minor Plats)
- 4.10: Adopt Resolution #15-01-027 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of January 8, 2015 through January 21, 2015
- 4.11: Adopt Resolution #15-01-021 Recognizing Councilmember Backous and Resolution #15-01-022 Recognizing Councilmember Tossey for Service to the City of Ramsey
- 4.12: Adopt Resolution #15-01-023 Approving Traffic Control Signal Maintenance Agreement No. 07023 for the Highway 10 and Armstrong Boulevard Interchange
- 4.13: Adopt Resolution #15-01-028 to Hire a Patrol Officer

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Riley, LeTourneau, Johns, Kuzma, and Shryock. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Shryock, Johns, Kuzma, LeTourneau, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Review Draft Closed Landfill Land Use Plan; Case of Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) Closed Landfill Land Use Plan. He thanked the MPCA for their work to create a plan to manage this area and protect against health hazards. Community Development Director Gladhill indicated the City is not approving this Plan at this point but is providing comments on the draft that will be incorporated into the next Comprehensive Plan Update. Should the Council like to discuss or make comment on the property that could potentially be used as a future commercial park (40 acres north of Sunwood Drive and east of the Oak Savannah), he recommended it be discussed at a future Work Session.

Councilmember Riley stated his understanding that the City supports most of the MPCA's Plan suggestions and the issue is the 40-acre parcel identified as one of the best places in Ramsey for infrastructure for a business park.

Community Development Director Gladhill explained the MPCA has indicated that Statute would restrict that from occurring.

Jean Hanson, MPCA, stated Community Development Director Gladhill has done a tremendous job of presenting the issues and the MPCA knows Ramsey is interested in the one parcel of 40 acres. She explained that the location of the current business park, under the new Statute, could not be sold today. Ms. Hanson stated the MPCA is required to be consistent in applying the 2011 redefining Statute requirements and cannot release that 40-acre parcel. She stated they are charged to release land for productive land use; however, their priority is management of closed landfills to contain contamination.

Mayor Strommen stated that based on Ms. Hanson's comments, it is not only a matter of complying with the Statute but also the MPCA does not want to relinquish the land as it is needed to manage this and other landfills.

Ms. Hanson confirmed that was the case.

The Council discussed the Closed Landfill Land Use Plan and acknowledged that the City has found alternate sites for the Public Works Facility as well as a future commercial park so it was not beneficial for the City to discuss this at a future Work Session or to pursue special legislation in an attempt to use the 40 acres for a commercial park.

7.02: Adopt Ordinance #15-04 Amending Chapter 26 of the Ramsey City Code – Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations – by Adding Article XVIII Massage Businesses and Services and Adopt Resolution #15-01-029 Amending the City's Rates and Charges by Establishing a Fee for Massage Businesses an Services

Police Chief Katers reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt an ordinance to regulate and license massage businesses and services as well as a resolution to establish license fees.

Councilmember Riley noted this business is not regulated at the State level and the intent is to address illegal activity that has been identified by the Police Department as occurring. He stated the original draft was amended several times to streamline requirements and make it less burdensome to businesses in general, while creating the ability to remove businesses conducting illegal activities.

Mayor Strommen stated her agreement, noting the City had also reached out to gain input from massage businesses that could potentially be impacted by adoption of this ordinance.

Councilmember Kuzma stated this ordinance language was discussed at several Work Sessions and will assure massage businesses remain a positive business in Ramsey.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to waive the City Charter requirement that the Ordinance be read aloud and Adopt Ordinance #15-04 Amending Chapter 26 of the Ramsey City Code – Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations – by adding Article XVIII Massage Businesses and Services.

A roll call vote was performed by the Recording Secretary:

Councilmember Kuzma	aye
Councilmember Riley	aye
Councilmember Johns	aye
Councilmember LeTourneau	aye
Councilmember Stryock	aye
Councilmember Williams	absent

Mayor Strommen aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to Adopt Resolution #15-01-029 Amending the City's Rates and Charges by Establishing a Fee for Massage Establishments and Massage Therapists.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Riley, Johns, Kuzma, LeTourneau, and Shryock. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

7.03: Approve Final Plans and Design and Authorize Bid Letting for Fire Station No. 2 Project 14-30

Fire Chief Kapler and Asst. City Administrator/Economic Development Manager Brama summarized the staff report and recommendation to approve final plans and design and authorize bid letting for Fire Station No. 2, Project 14-30. It was noted that as requested by Councilmember Riley, capitalized interest has been removed.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember LeTourneau, to approve final plans and design and authorize bid letting for Fire Station No. 2, Project 14-30.

Further discussion: Councilmember Riley stated this project has been considered for years and discussed at a recent Work Session. He stated his support for this project, noting it will also accommodate housing an ambulance at this location. Councilmember LeTourneau stated Fire Station No. 2 will be an asset to Ramsey and provide better service to residents.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Johns, LeTourneau, Kuzma, Riley, and Shryock. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

7.04: Adopt Resolution #15-01-024 Approving Joint Powers Agreement for Constructing and Maintaining Sewer and Water Serving a Portion of the City of Anoka

City Engineer Westby reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt a resolution to approve a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the Cities of Ramsey and Anoka to extend Ramsey's public sanitary sewer and water utilities to serve two parcels within Anoka.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated support for staff's recommendation as it will save taxpayer money and the JPA will address logistics over time.

Motion by Councilmember LeTourneau, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to Adopt Resolution #15-01-024 Approving Joint Powers Agreement for Constructing and Maintaining Sewer and Water Serving a Portion of the City of Anoka.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers LeTourneau, Riley, Johns, Kuzma, and Shryock. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

7.05: Adopt Resolution #15-01-025 Ordering Feasibility Report for Jarvis Street Reconstruction and Railroad Crossing Quiet Zone Improvements; City Improvement Project #15-20

City Engineer Westby reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt a resolution ordering preparation of a feasibility report for the Jarvis Street Reconstruction and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Crossing Quiet Zone Improvements.

Councilmember Kuzma stated support for the project including the creation of a quiet zone that will be of benefit for residents.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to Adopt Resolution #15-01-025 Ordering Feasibility Report for Jarvis Street Reconstruction and Railroad Crossing Quiet Zone Improvements; City Improvement Project #15-20.

Further discussion: Councilmember LeTourneau asked if there is a separate expenditure to create the quiet zone. City Engineer Westby stated it is included in the estimated costs. Councilmember Riley stated Jarvis Street has a Pavement Rating 2 and it will be a benefit that Elk River will be financing this project for a three-year period. Councilmember LeTourneau asked when Andrie Street will be reconstructed. City Engineer Westby stated it is in the CIP for 2016. Councilmember LeTourneau commented on the good timing for this project as it will serve as access during the Andrie Street project. Councilmember Shryock stated she is a bicyclist enthusiast and the precedent in Ramsey is for separate bike trails rather than an on-road bike lane. She suggested a bike lane not be striped as it is not currently warranted and would lower project cost. Rather, Councilmember Shryock felt it would be appropriate to consider wider shoulder width and bicycle lane signage. City Engineer Westby explained this is a Municipal State Aid route so those requirements must be met. He stated the project originally had an off-road ten-foot bike trail on the west side but the Elk River Council revised the project to incorporate two on-road bike lanes. City Engineer Westby noted that when Andrie Street and 164th Lane is reconstructed, the Public Works Committee recommended incorporating an on-road bike lane. He pointed out that on Riverdale Drive, there are on-road bike lanes for the Mississippi River Trail. Councilmember Shryock stated an on-road bike lane is different than the original concept and she does not know the expense involved or the road width difference. City Engineer Westby stated it is typically cheaper to incorporate the bicycle facility on road as it can be more narrow and does not require additional maintenance for snow plowing. He stated he will ask the City of Elk River about the bike trail. Councilmember LeTourneau stated the Mississippi River Trail alignment would include Jarvis Street through Ramsey to the north and continue toward Elk River on Jarvis Street. He stated that tells him there will be a function in creating a place to go and may be the reason for the on-road striping of a bicycle lane. Councilmember Shryock asked where the bike lane will go once it hits Jarvis Street. She stated if the Council is considering more on-road bike lanes, she would suggest resident education about that use. Mayor Strommen agreed and suggested this be addressed by the Public Works Committee as similar projects come forward.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Kuzma, Riley, Johns, LeTourneau, and Shryock. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Williams.

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Ulrich announced Ramsey has now trained 100 people through the HeartSafe Program and training continues to be held the first Monday of every month. The goal is to train 2,000 by July 1, 2015.

Mayor Strommen asked staff to create a visual aid to show that progress.

City Administrator Ulrich announced two events scheduled on January 30, 2015, to recognize the retirement of Police Chief Jim Way. He also announced upcoming meetings, agenda topics, and events.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember LeTourneau, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Carla Wirth
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.